



# FEMA



Prepared by  
*Brian Hoeth*

# FEMA Region 6 Weather Threat Briefing

Friday, March 8, 2019

**Disclaimer:** The purpose of this briefing is to provide a **Regional** weather threat assessment and is meant as a general overview. County/Parish decision makers should consult their local NWS forecast offices for the latest detailed, local weather information.

To find your local NWS forecast office, go to [www.weather.gov/srh](http://www.weather.gov/srh).

# Summary of the Upcoming Week



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## Today

- Severe storms with damaging winds, large hail, and a few tornadoes possible across **E OK/NTX/W AR** tonight into early Saturday morning.
- Critical fire weather conditions possible across **SE NM, WTX, TX/OK** Panhandles.
- Strong winds in **NM/Far West TX** may lead to blowing dust/poor visibility, damage to trees and power lines, and difficult travel along **E-W** highways including **I-40** in **NM** and **I-10** in **Far West TX**.
- Winter weather will lead to hazardous travel this evening into early Saturday morning for the mountains of north-central **NM**.

## Tomorrow

- Severe storms with damaging winds, hail, and a few tornadoes possible for **NETX/E OK/AR/N LA**.
  - The best potential for scattered damaging winds and a few tornadoes is across the Enhanced Risk area in **E AR/NE LA**. A couple of these tornadoes could be strong.
- Elevated fire weather conditions possible for **E&S NM/WTX/TX** Panhandle/ **West-Central TX/SW OK**.

## Sunday - Monday

- No significant weather impacts.

## Tuesday

- Severe storms possible across parts of west/central **TX**.
- Heavy rain/flash flooding possible late Tuesday into early Wednesday across **OK** into north/central **TX**

## River Flooding

- Moderate to Major flooding will continue this week and into next week on the Mississippi River at many locations in **E AR/E LA**.
- The **MS** Flooding is slightly higher than 2016 & 1997.
- Rainfall the next 5 days is not expected to significantly impact the ongoing river flooding but may cause new minor river flooding across portions of **N** and **E TX** next week.

# FEMA Region 6 Threat Matrix

Mar 8, 2019 – Mar 12, 2019



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DAY / THREAT	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE
Severe Storms	E OK/N TX/W AR	E AR/NE LA			west/central TX
		E OK/NE TX/AR/N LA			
Heavy Rain / Flash Flooding					OK into north/central TX
Winter Weather	north-central NM				
Strong Winds	NM/Far W TX				
Fire Weather	SE NM/W TX/ TX Panhandle	E NM/W TX/ TX Panhandle/ W CTX/SW OK			
River Flooding	E AR/E LA	E AR/E LA	E AR/E LA	E AR/E LA	E AR/E LA
					N & E TX

	No Weather Threats Expected
	Very Common – Happens Often
	Common – Happens Frequently
	Uncommon – A Few Times a Year
	Rare – Once Every 1-5 Years
	Very Rare – Once Every 5-10 Years

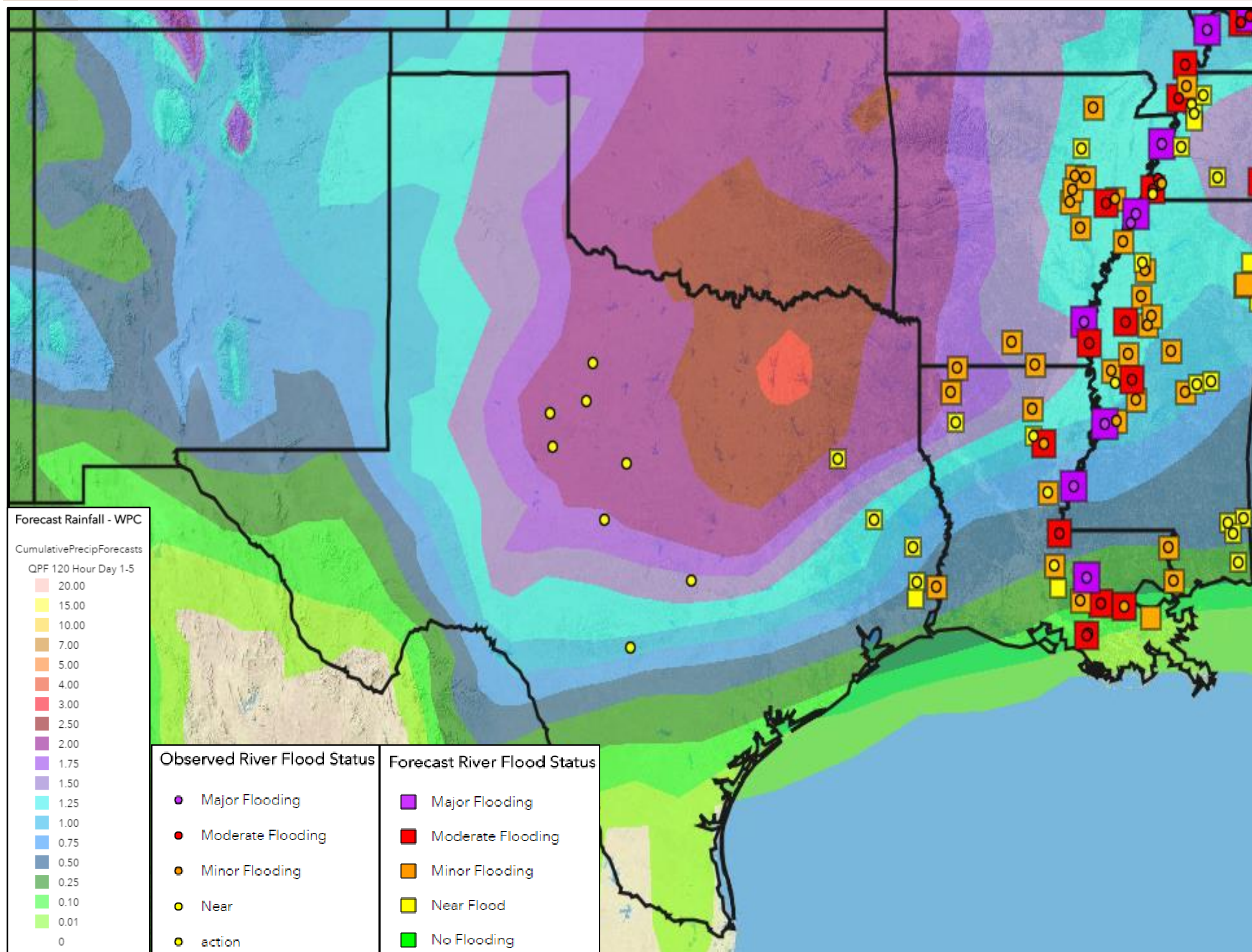
*\*Threat levels are based on FEMA Region 6 criteria.  
State or local threat level criteria may differ.\*  
For more details on the colors in the threat matrix refer to the last slide in this briefing.*

# 5-Day Precipitation Forecast & River Flood Status



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*Note: Even though the image displays 5 days of forecasted rainfall, river forecasts only include 1-2 days of rainfall*



**Moderate to Major flooding will continue this week and into next week on the Mississippi River at many locations in E AR/E LA. The MS Flooding is slightly higher than 2016 & 1997. Rainfall the next 5 days is not expected to significantly impact the ongoing river flooding but may cause new minor river flooding across portions of N and E TX next week.**

## Arkansas

- **All rivers have crested except the MS River.**
- **Mississippi River at Osceola, Tunica Riverpark, and near Arkansas City remain at major flood, but have all crested.**
- **Mississippi River near Greenville, MS is in moderate and is currently cresting right at the threshold for major flood stage.**

## Louisiana

- **MS River at Baton Rouge is at Major flood and rising. Shipping and industrial activities are significantly affected. The city of Baton Rouge is protected by levees at the currently forecast levels.**
- **MS River at Vicksburg and Natchez are at major flood stage and rising with homes and roads impacted.**

# Today's Weather



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# SR ROC

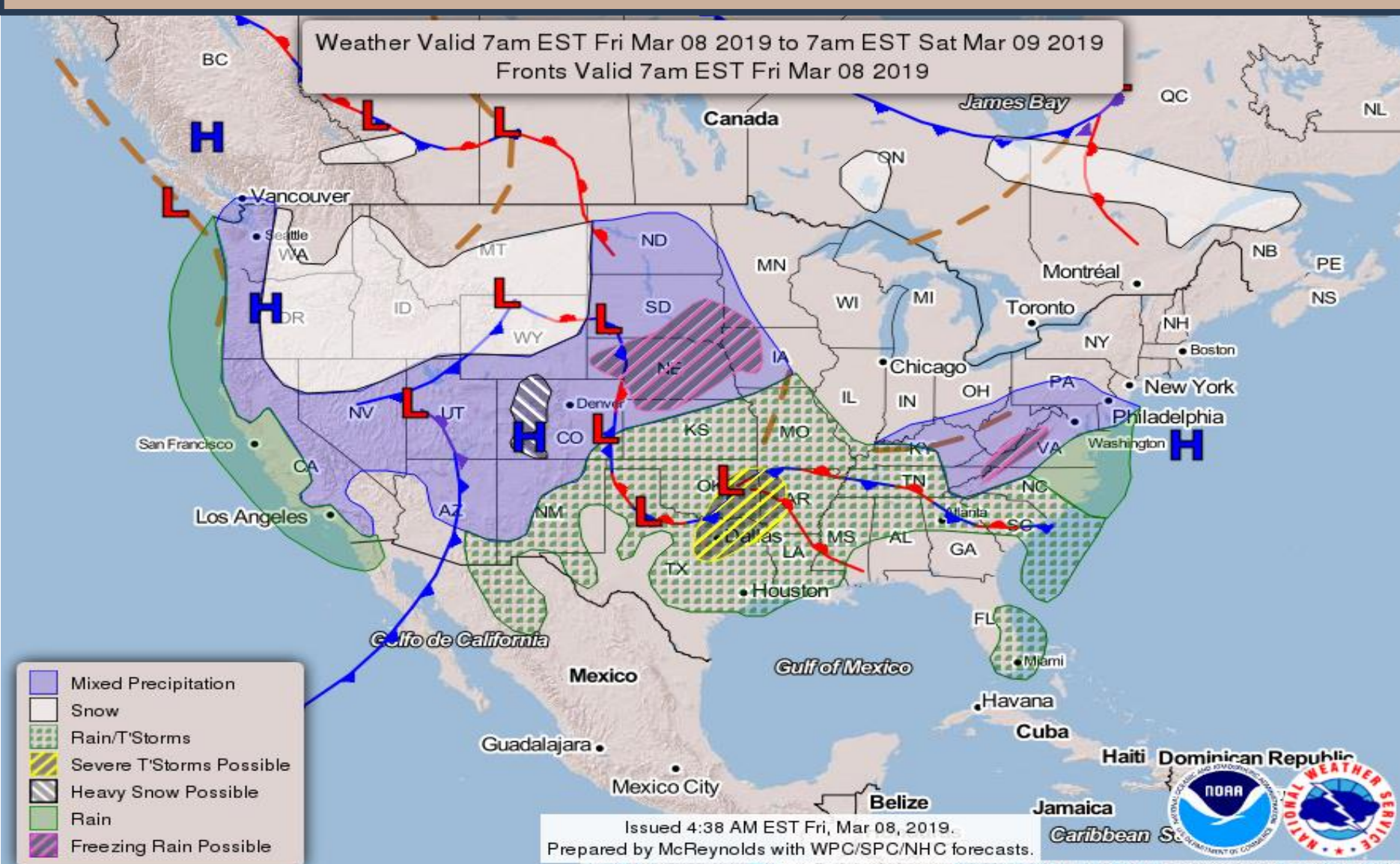
REGIONAL OPERATIONS CENTER

Weather Valid 7am EST Fri Mar 08 2019 to 7am EST Sat Mar 09 2019  
Fronts Valid 7am EST Fri Mar 08 2019

Legend:

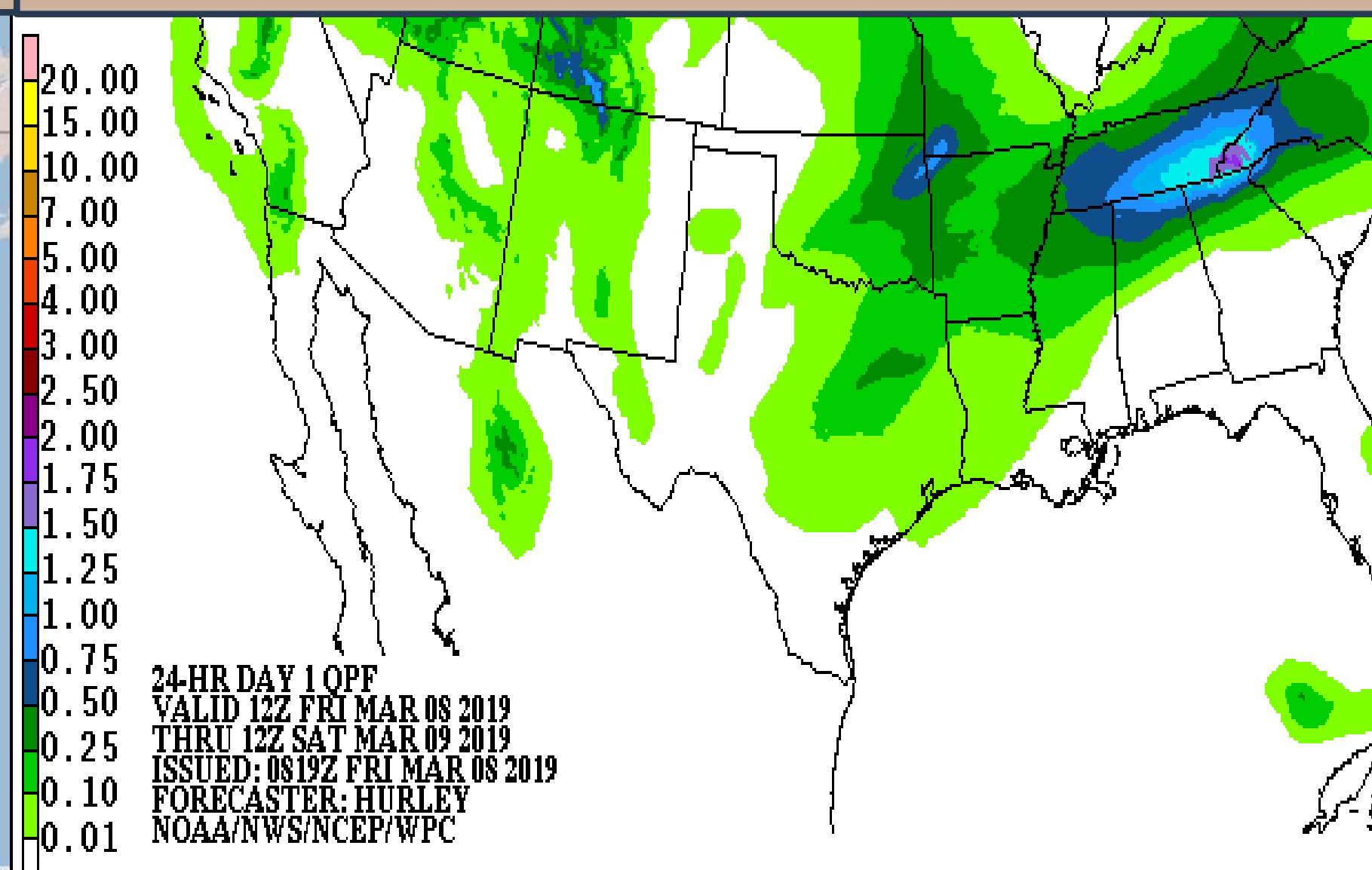
- Mixed Precipitation
- Snow
- Rain/T'Storms
- Severe T'Storms Possible
- Heavy Snow Possible
- Rain
- Freezing Rain Possible

Issued 4:38 AM EST Fri, Mar 08, 2019.  
Prepared by McReynolds with WPC/SPC/NHC forecasts.



20.00  
15.00  
10.00  
7.00  
5.00  
4.00  
3.00  
2.50  
2.00  
1.75  
1.50  
1.25  
1.00  
0.75  
0.50  
0.25  
0.10  
0.01

24-HR DAY 1 QPF  
VALID 12Z FRI MAR 08 2019  
THRU 12Z SAT MAR 09 2019  
ISSUED: 0819Z FRI MAR 08 2019  
FORECASTER: HURLEY  
NOAA/NWS/NCEP/WPC



**Severe storms with  
damaging winds, large hail,  
and a few tornadoes possible  
across E OK/N TX/W AR  
tonight into early Saturday  
morning.**

**Strong winds in  
NM/Far West TX may lead to  
blowing dust/poor visibility,  
damage to trees and power  
lines, and difficult travel along  
E-W highways including I-40  
in NM and I-10 in  
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**Strong winds in NM/Far West TX may lead to blowing dust/poor visibility, damage to trees and power lines, and difficult travel along E-W highways including I-40 in NM and I-10 in Far West TX.**

**Winter weather will lead to hazardous travel this evening into early Saturday morning for the mountains of north-central NM.**

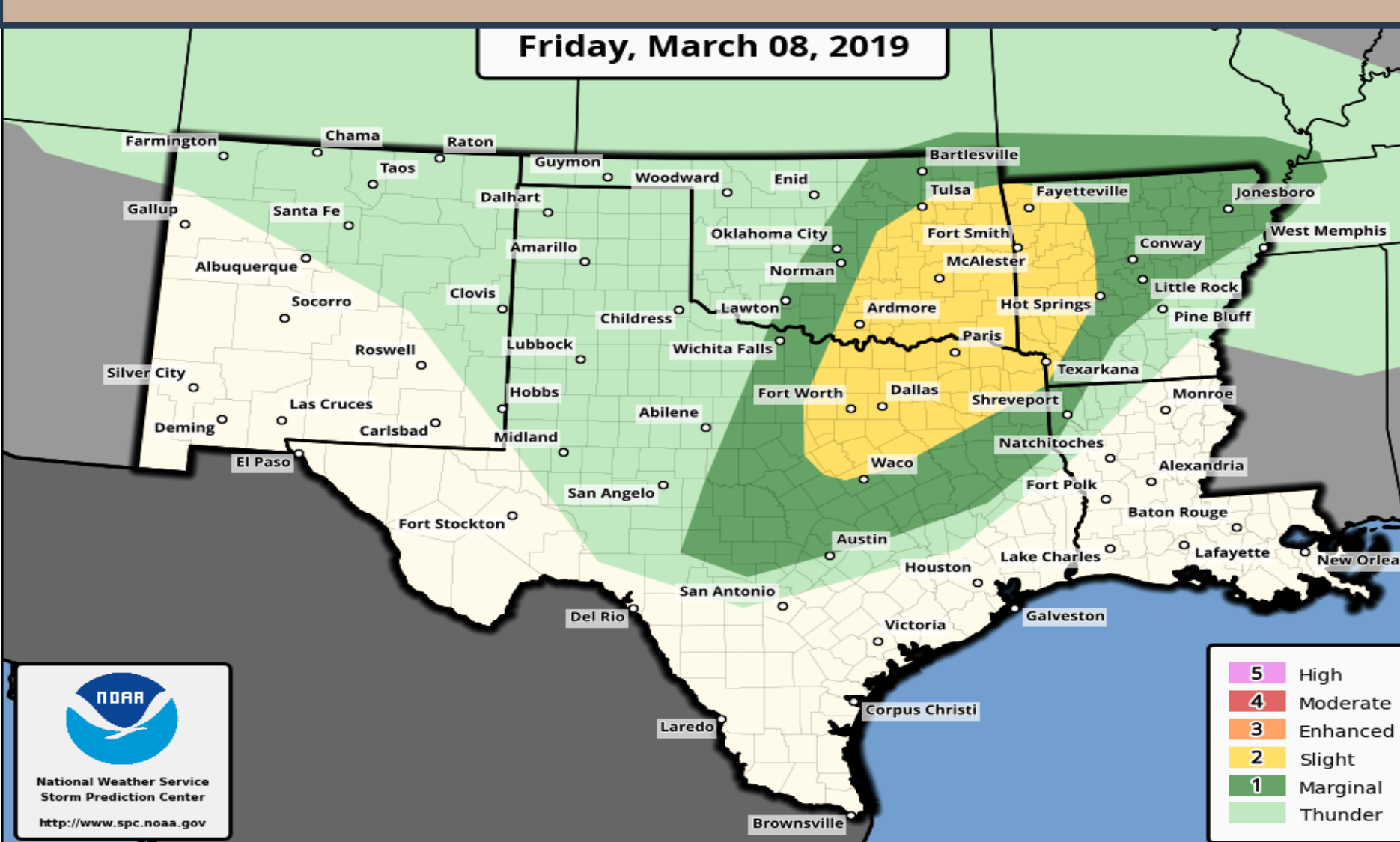
**Friday, March 08, 2019**

Map showing the probability of hail across Texas and surrounding areas. The legend indicates the following probability levels:

- 5 High
- 4 Moderate
- 3 Enhanced
- 2 Slight
- 1 Marginal
- Thunder

Major cities labeled on the map include: Farmington, Chama, Raton, Taos, Gallup, Santa Fe, Albuquerque, Socorro, Roswell, Silver City, Deming, El Paso, Las Cruces, Carlsbad, Fort Stockton, San Angelo, Midland, Lubbock, Childress, Abilene, Fort Worth, Dallas, Waco, Austin, Houston, Victoria, Corpus Christi, Brownsville, Laredo, Del Rio, San Antonio, Guymon, Woodward, Enid, Bartlesville, Tulsa, Fayetteville, Jonesboro, West Memphis, Conway, Little Rock, Pine Bluff, Hot Springs, McAlester, Fort Smith, Ardmore, Paris, Texarkana, Shreveport, Natchitoches, Fort Polk, Alexandria, Baton Rouge, Lafayette, New Orleans, and Galveston.

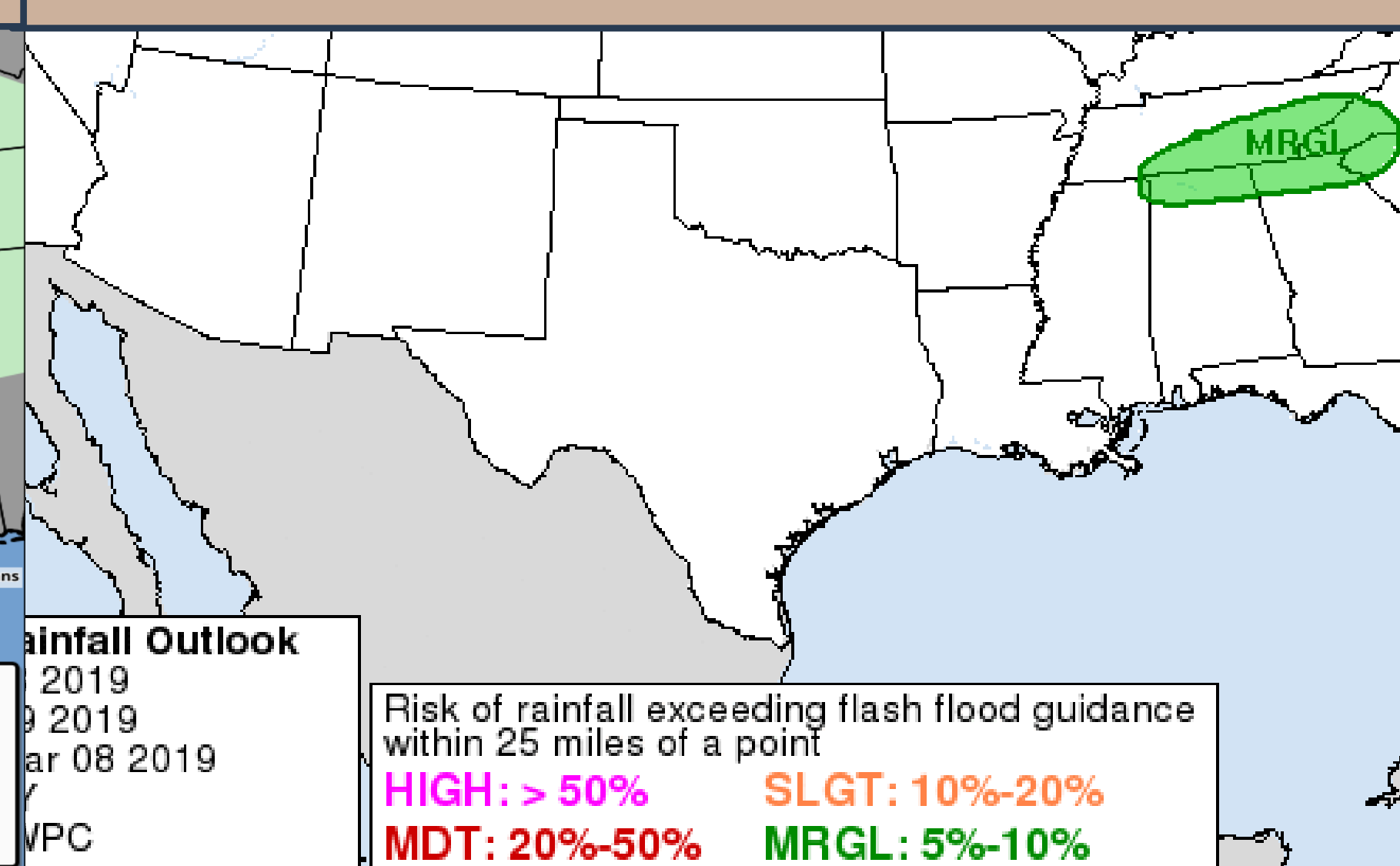
NOAA National Weather Service Storm Prediction Center  
<http://www.spc.noaa.gov>



**Rainfall Outlook**  
 12-15 June 2019  
 0900 UTC 08 June 2019  
 WPC

Risk of rainfall exceeding flash flood guidance within 25 miles of a point

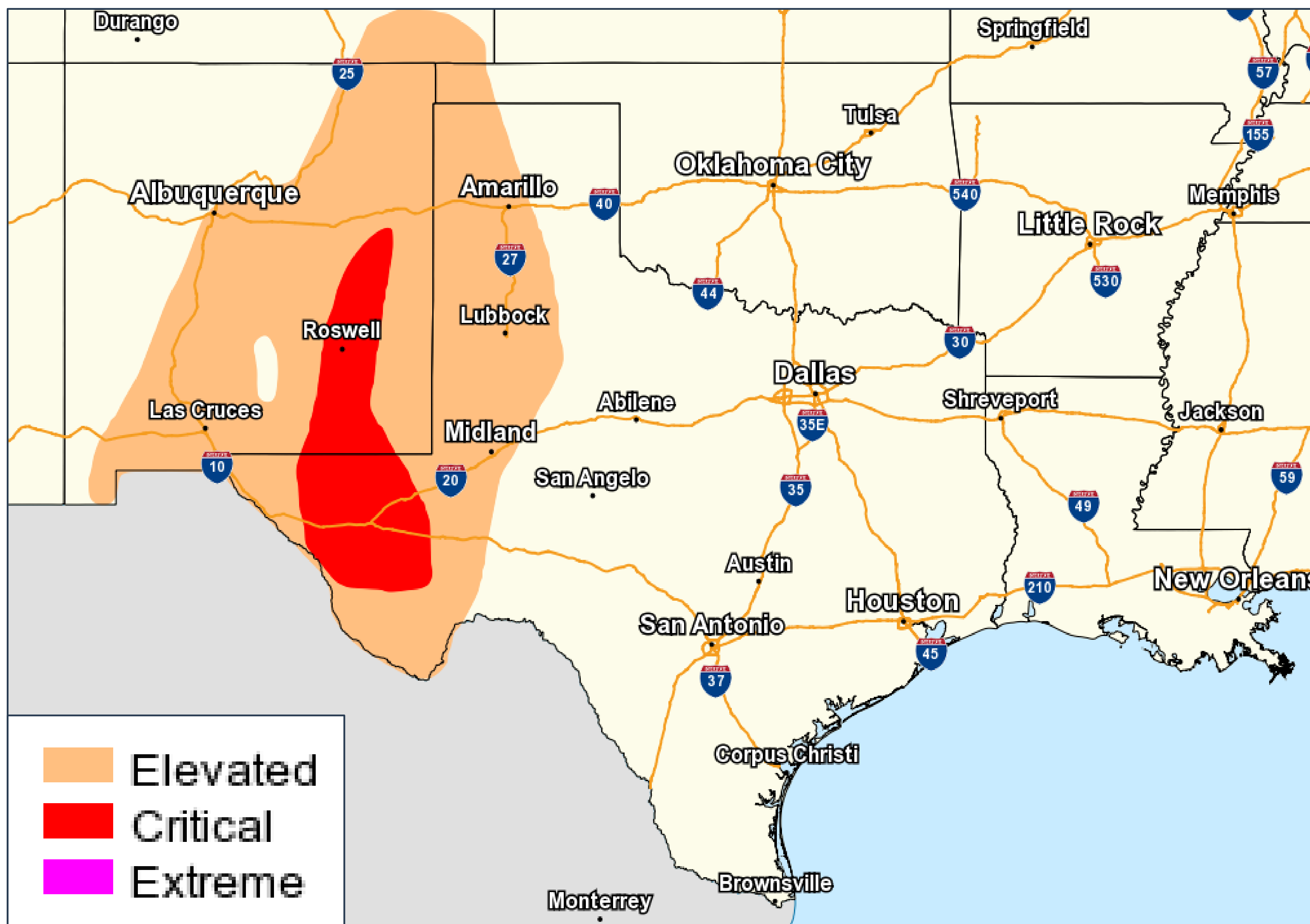
<b>HIGH: &gt; 50%</b>	<b>SLGT: 10%-20%</b>
<b>MDT: 20%-50%</b>	<b>MRGL: 5%-10%</b>



# Today's Fire Weather Outlook



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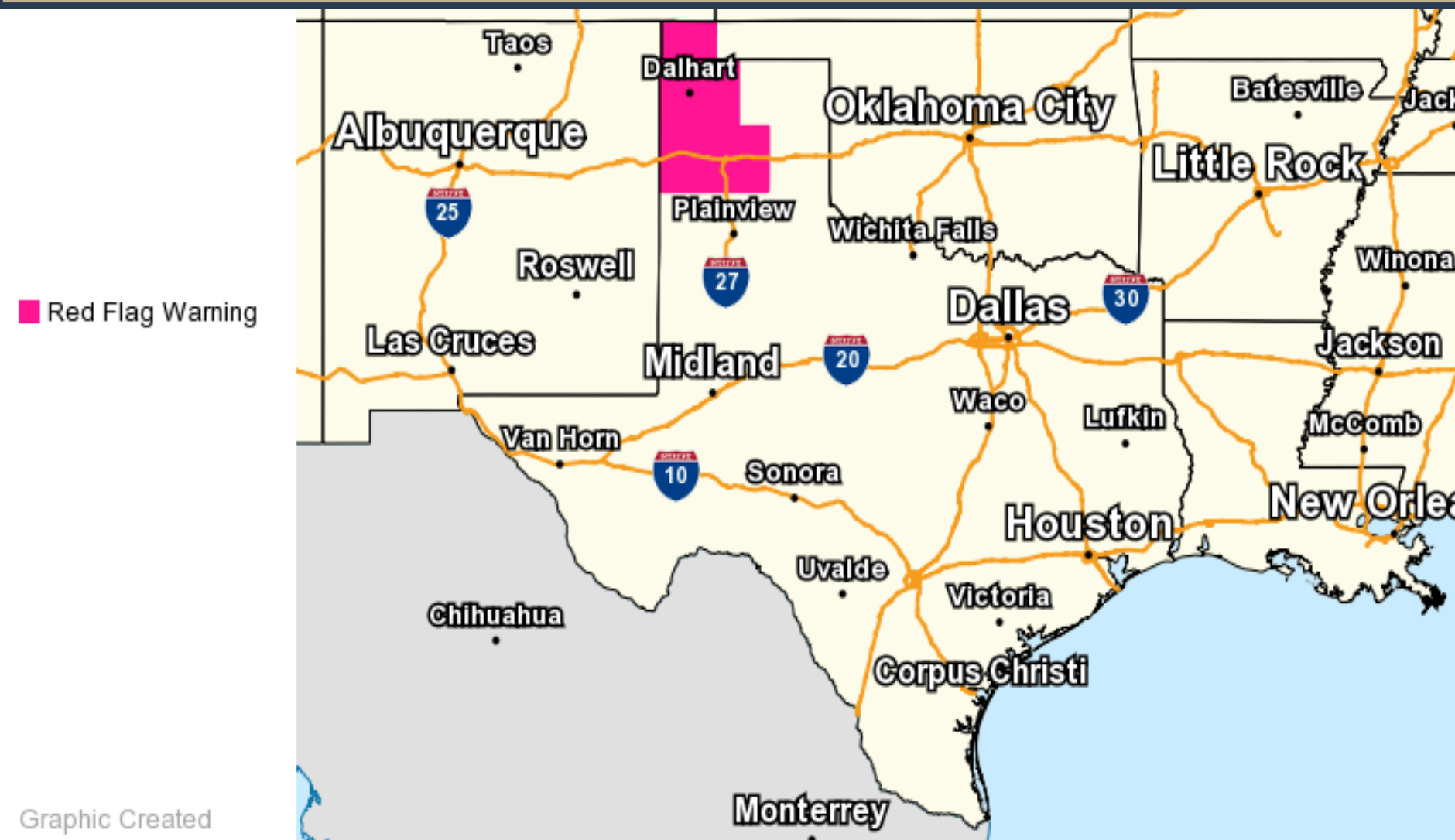
**Elevated to critical fire weather conditions possible across S&E NM, W TX, and TX Panhandle.**

# Watches, Warnings, and Advisories



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## Fire Weather



## Severe Weather & Flooding

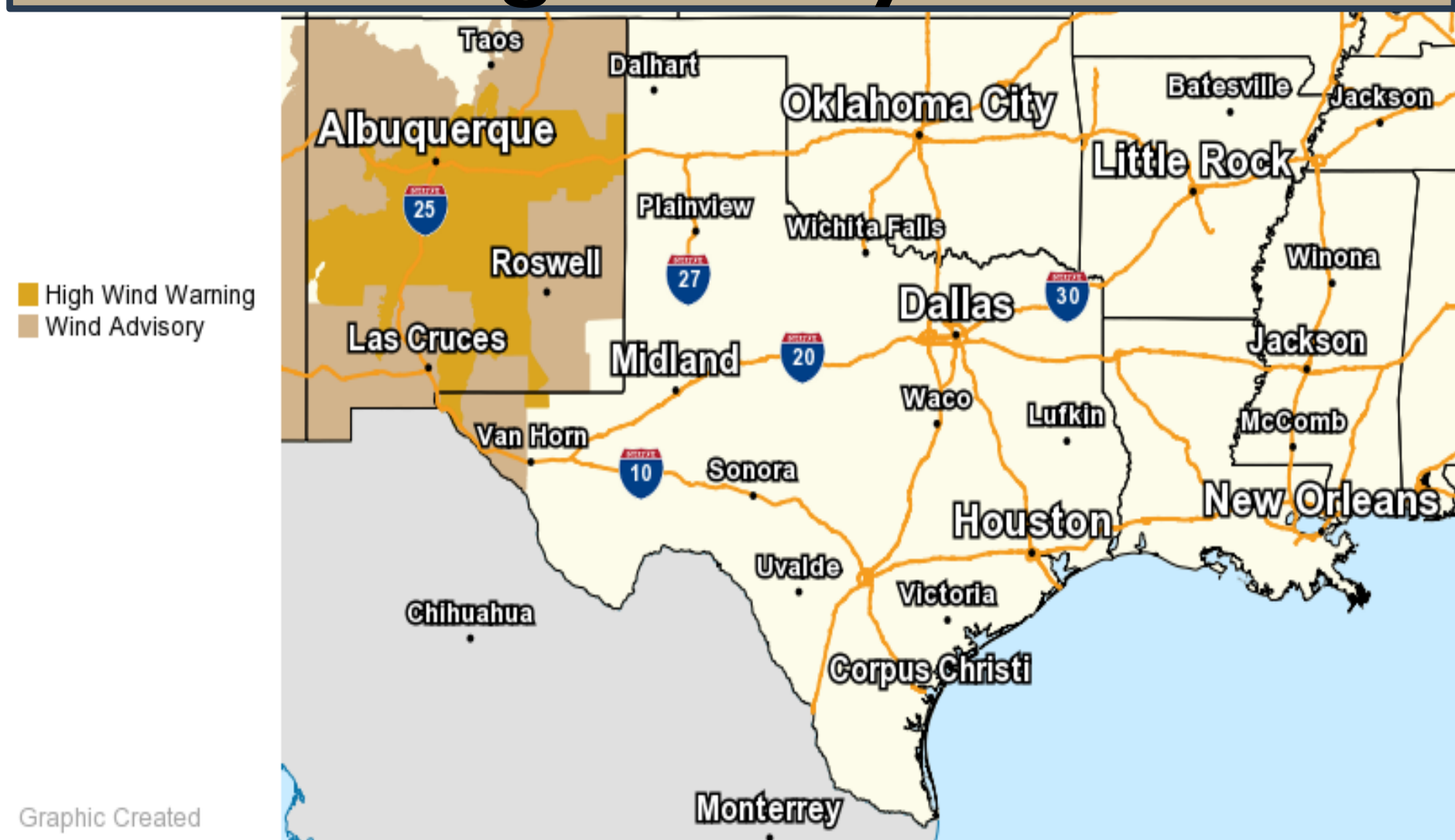


**Red Flag Warnings in effect for today for portions of the TX/OK Panhandles where Critical Fire Weather Conditions are expected.**

**High Wind Warnings and Wind Advisories in effect today across much of NM into Far West TX.**

**Winter Weather Advisory in effect this evening into early Saturday morning for the north-central mountains of NM.**

## Strong & Gusty Winds



## Winter Weather



# Tomorrow's Weather

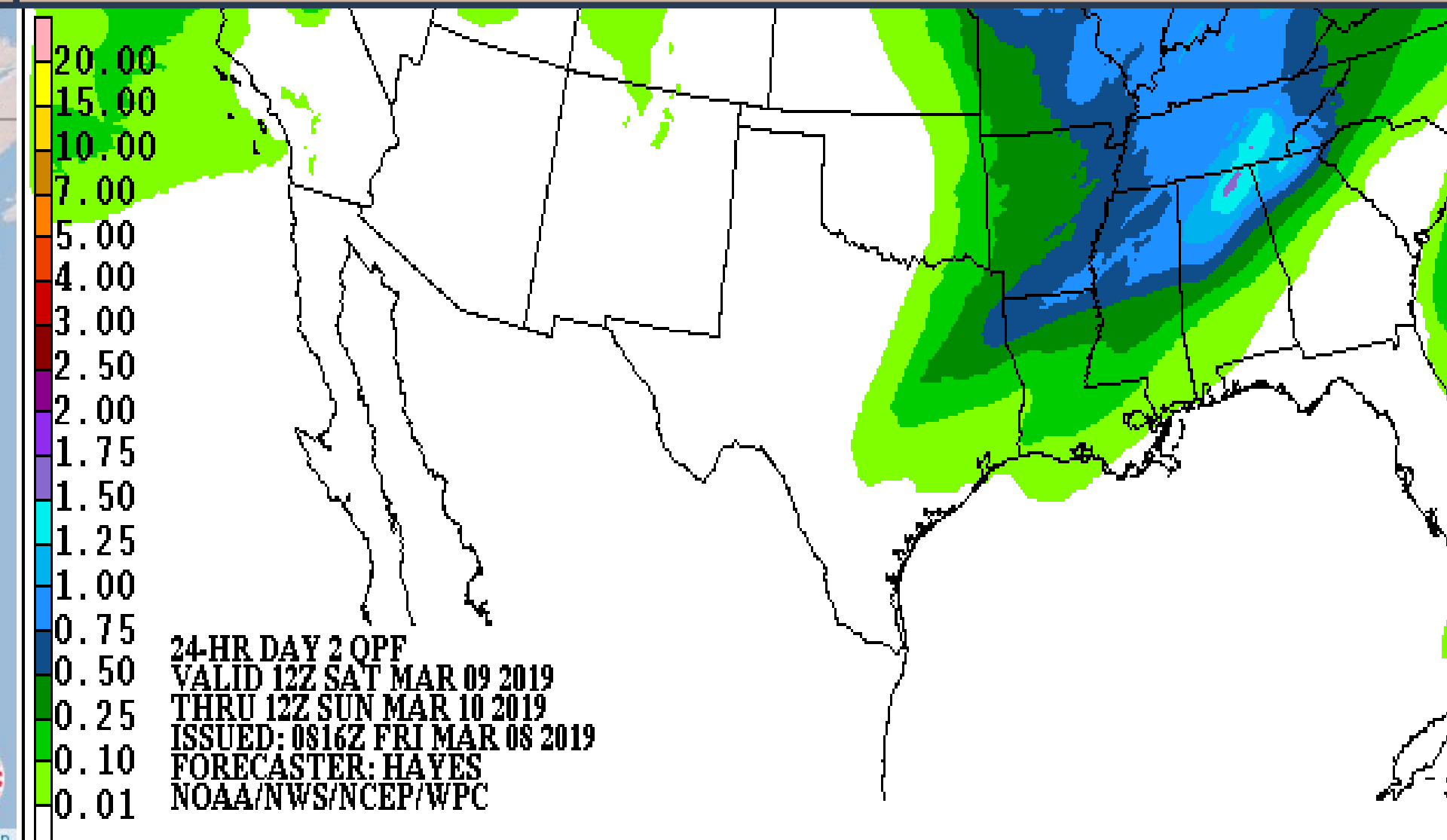
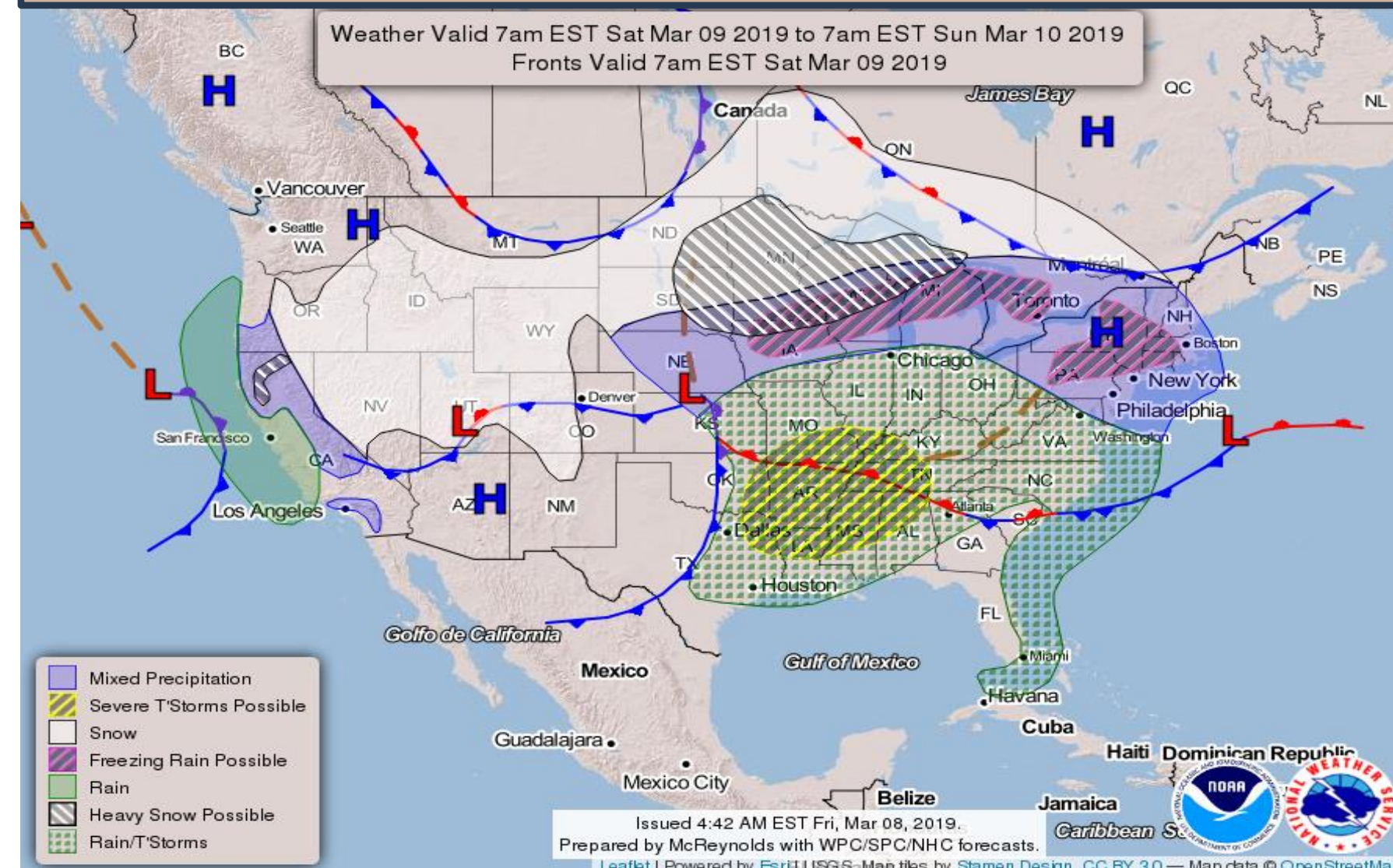


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## Forecast Chart

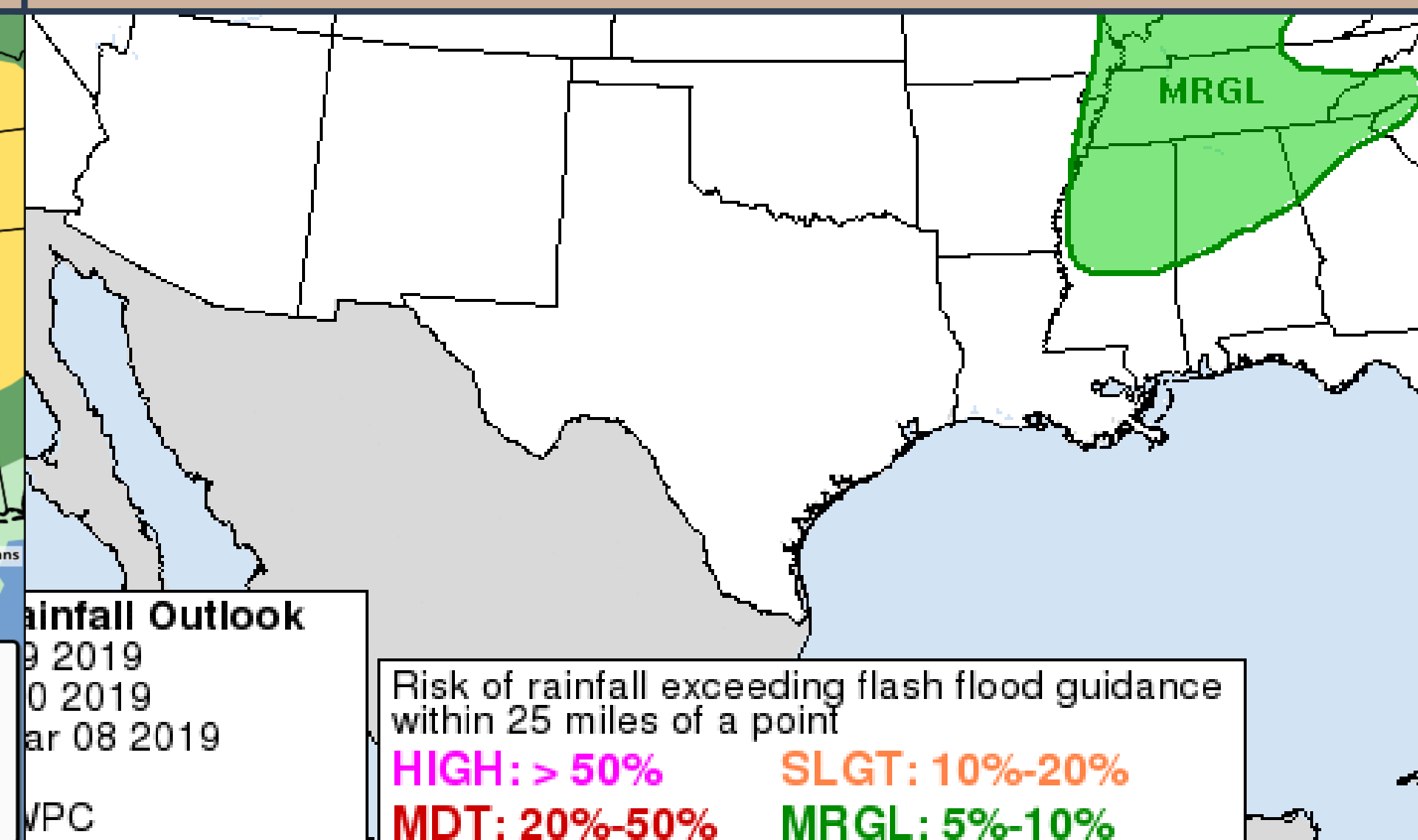
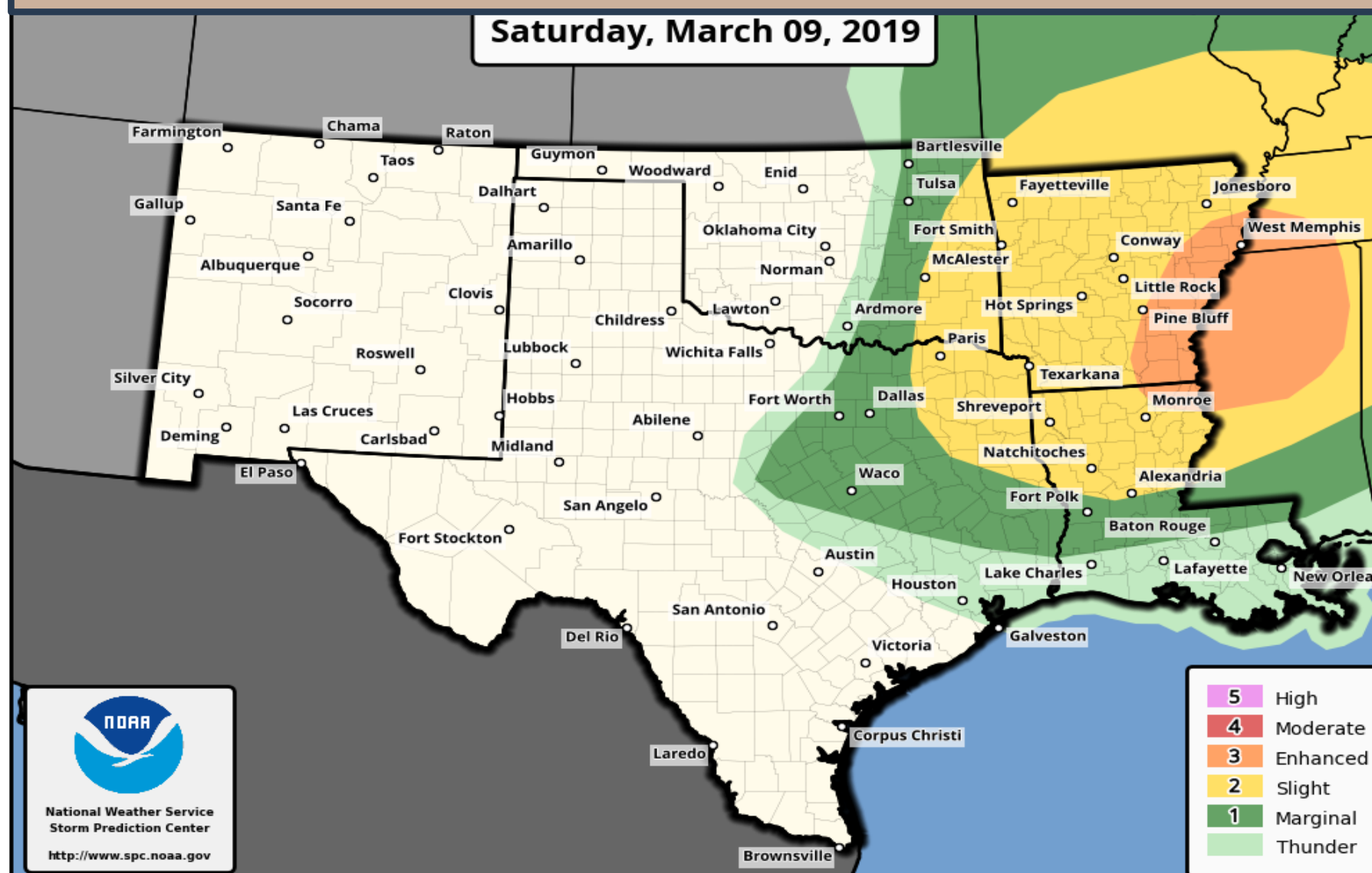
## Forecast Rainfall

**Severe storms with damaging winds, hail, and a few tornadoes possible for NE TX/E OK/AR/N LA. The best potential for scattered damaging winds and a few tornadoes is across the Enhanced Risk area in E AR/NE LA. A couple of these tornadoes could be strong.**



## Severe Weather Outlook

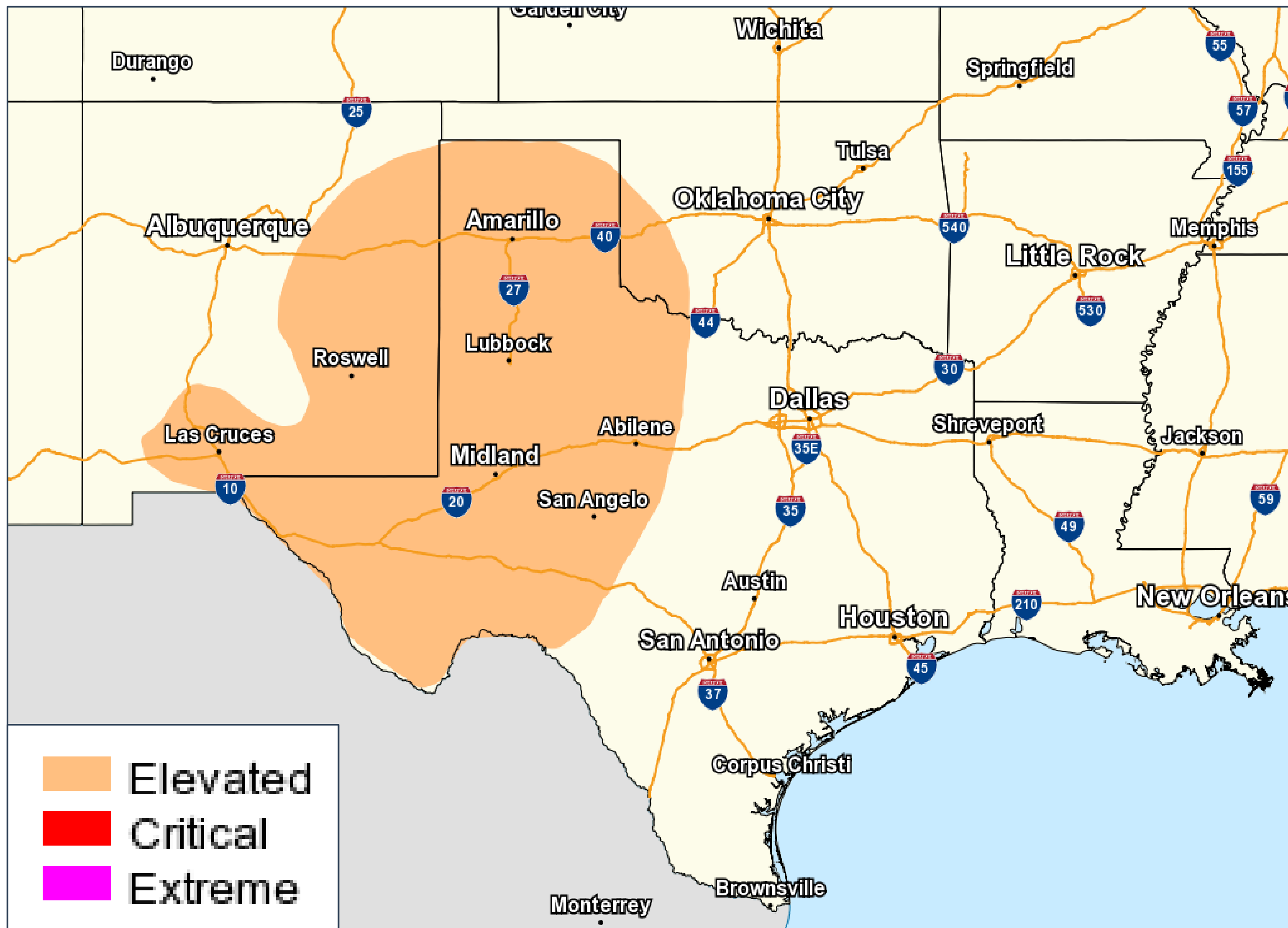
## Excessive Rainfall Outlook



# Tomorrow's Fire Weather Outlook



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**Elevated fire weather conditions possible  
across S&E NM/W TX/TX Panhandle/  
west-central TX/SW OK.**

# Sunday's Weather

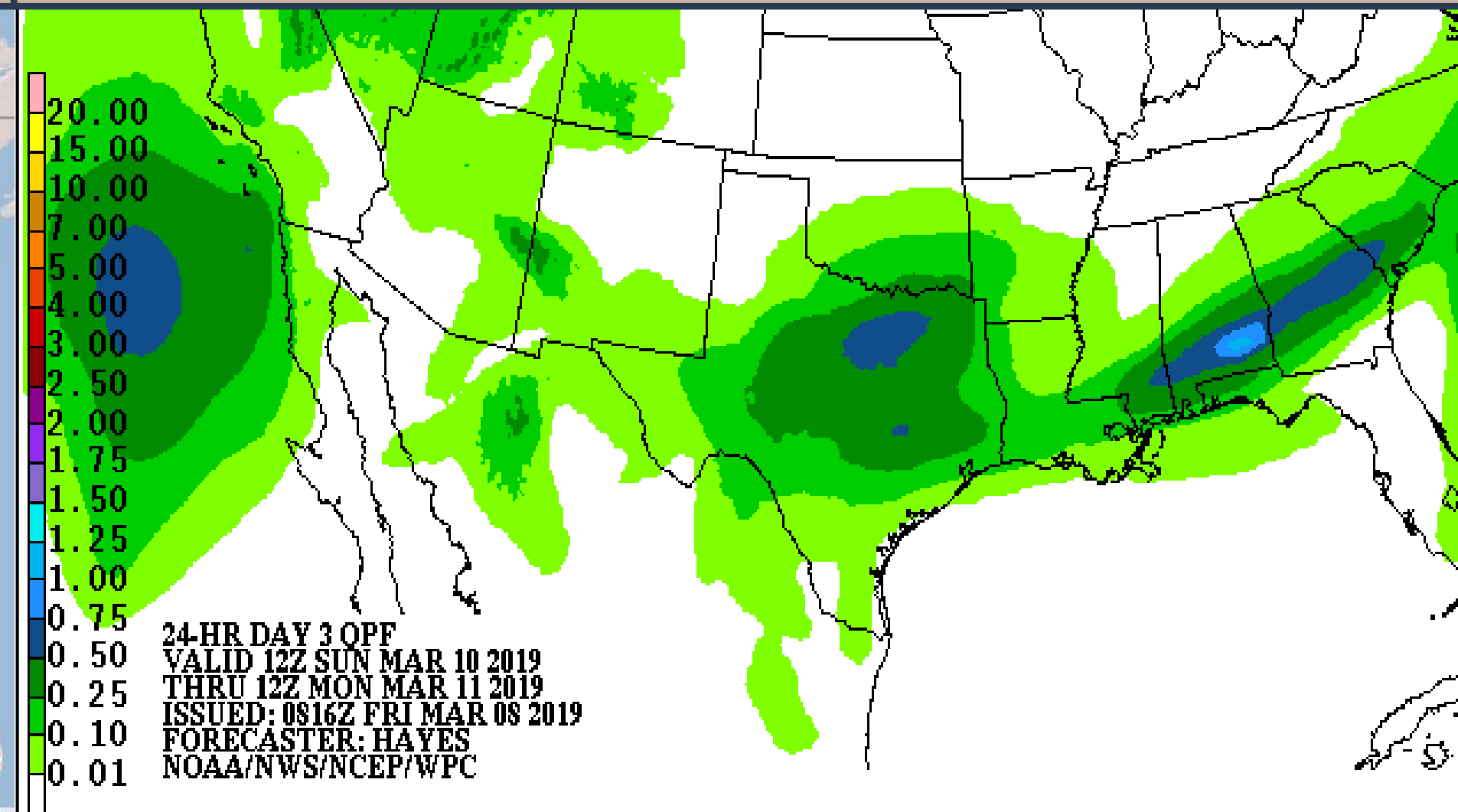
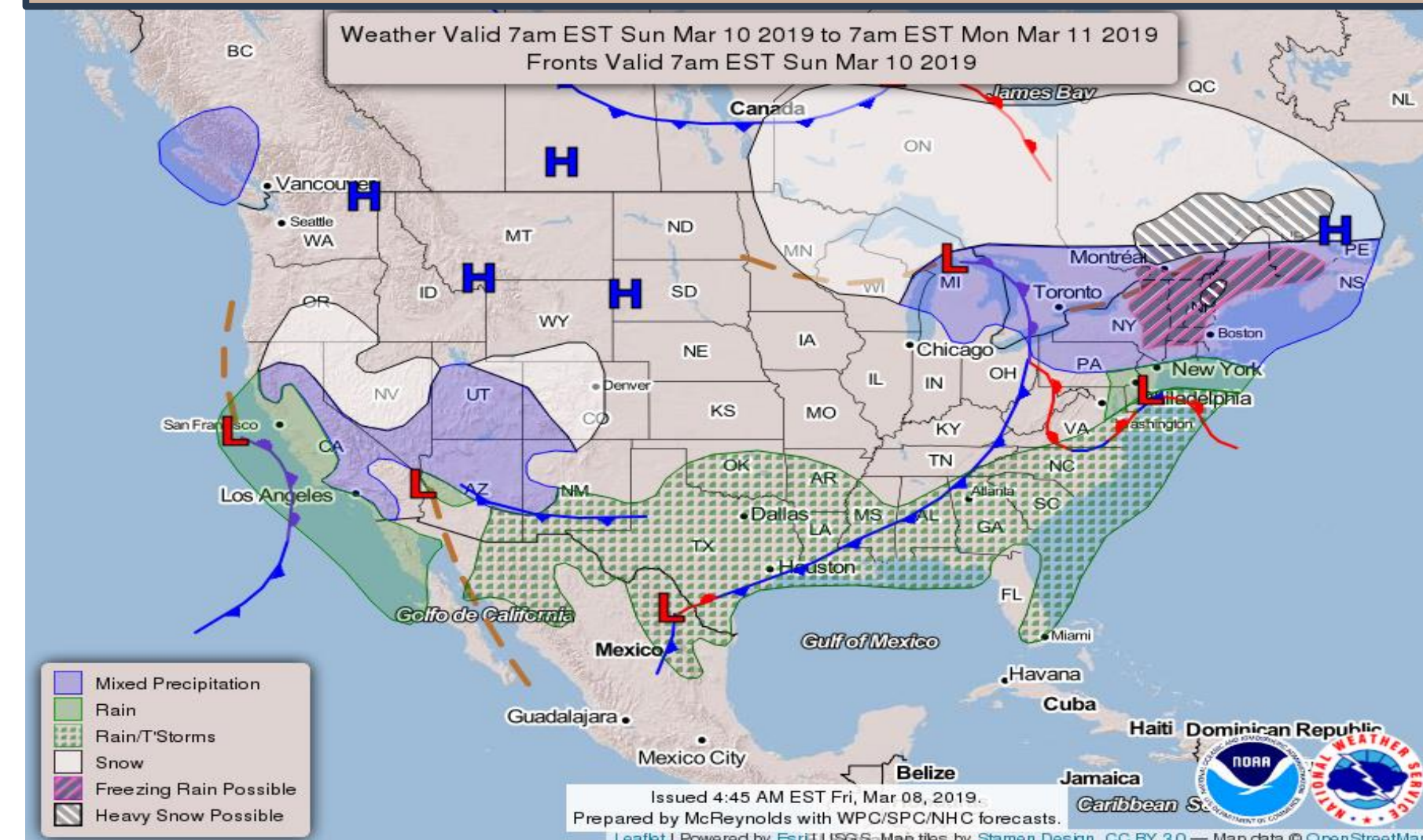


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## Forecast Chart

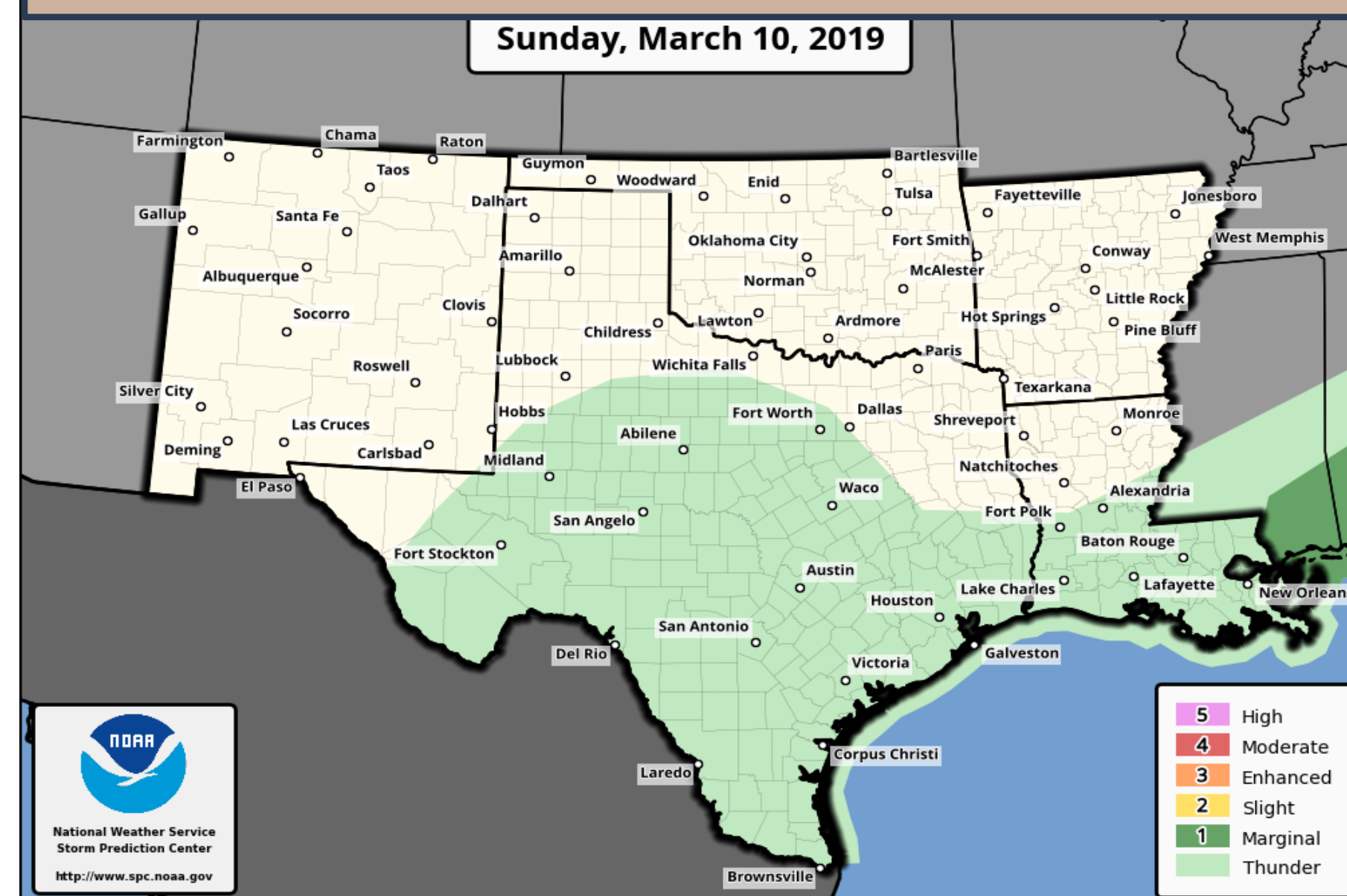
## Forecast Rainfall

No significant weather  
expected.



## Severe Weather Outlook

## Excessive Rainfall Outlook

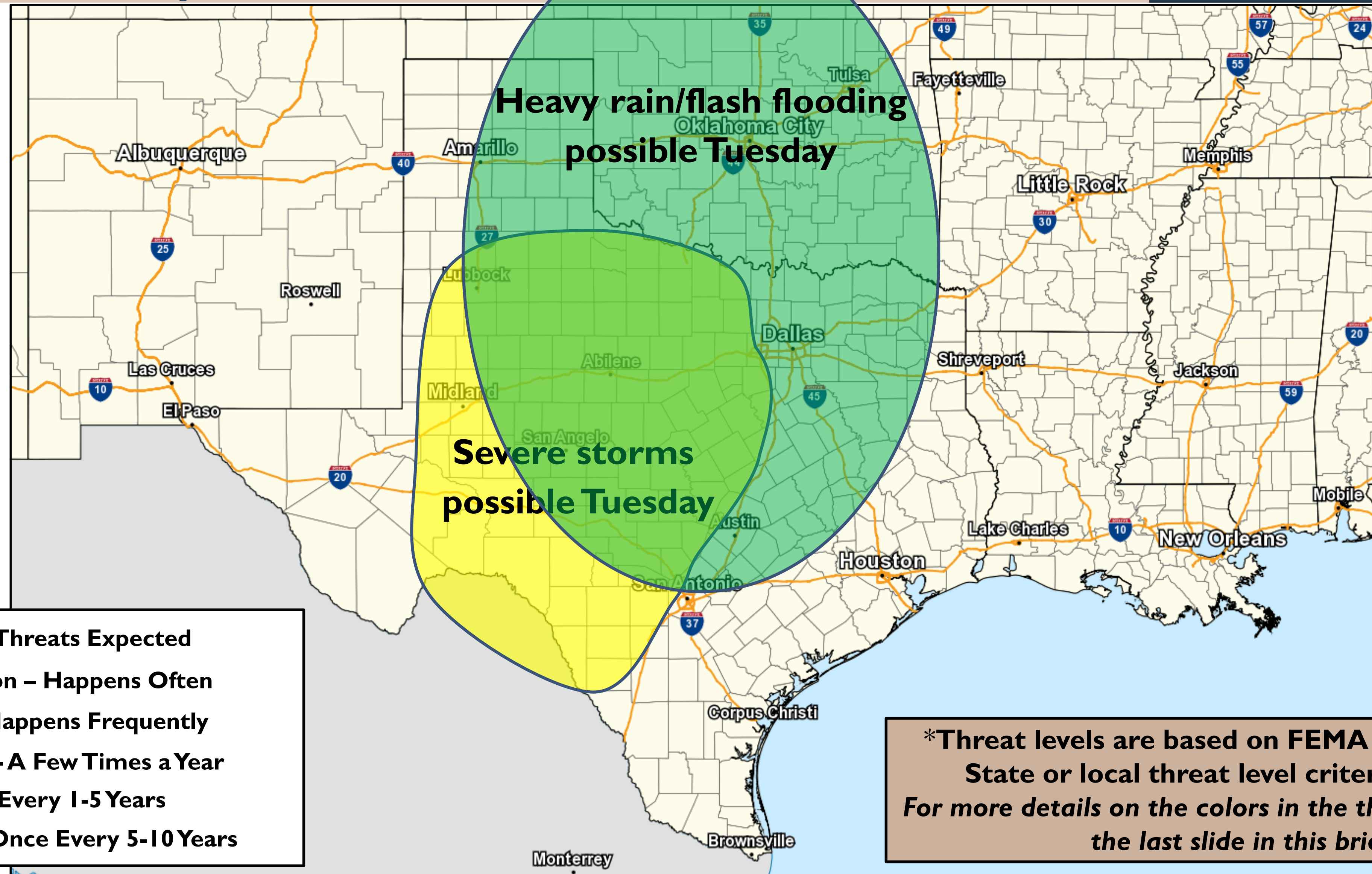


# Days 4-5 Weather Hazards

## Monday - Tuesday



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**\*Threat levels are based on FEMA Region 6 criteria.  
State or local threat level criteria may differ.\***

***For more details on the colors in the threat matrix refer to  
the last slide in this briefing.***

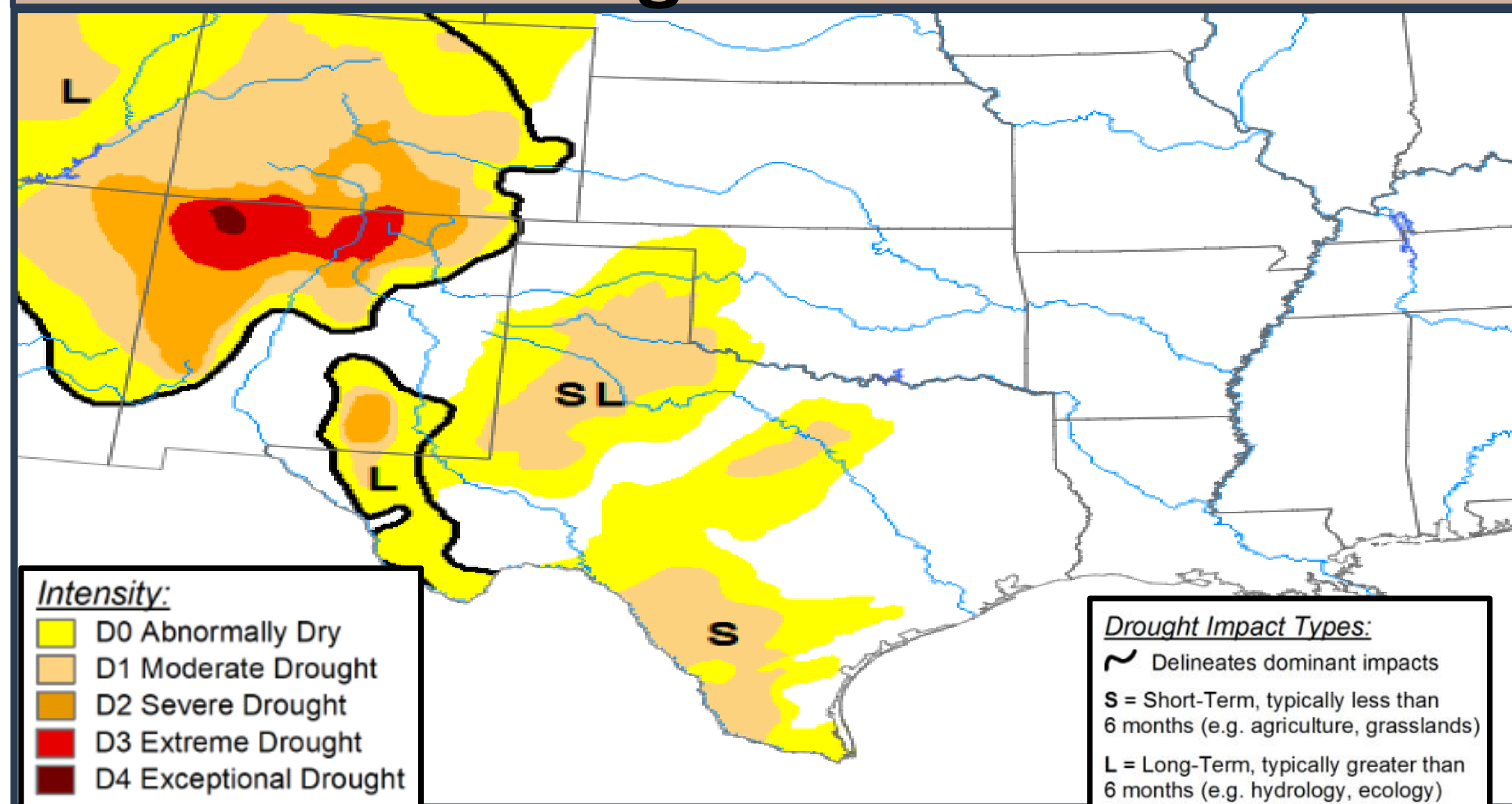
# Drought Monitor (Released March 7, 2019)



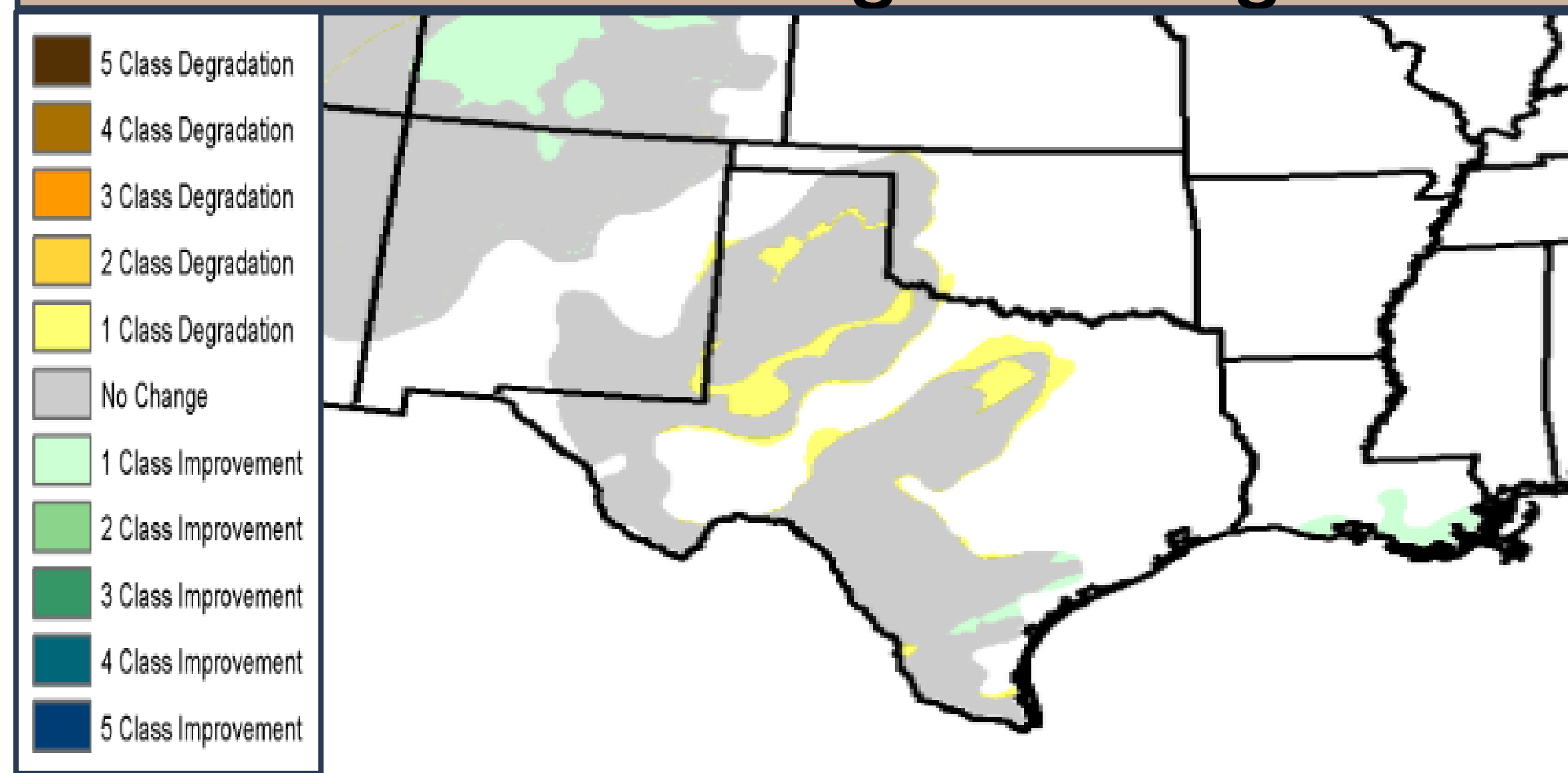
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Data valid as of 7am EST, Tuesday, March 5, 2019

## Drought Monitor



## One Week Change in Drought



## Drought Conditions (Percent Area) in D3-D4 (Extreme to Exceptional Drought)

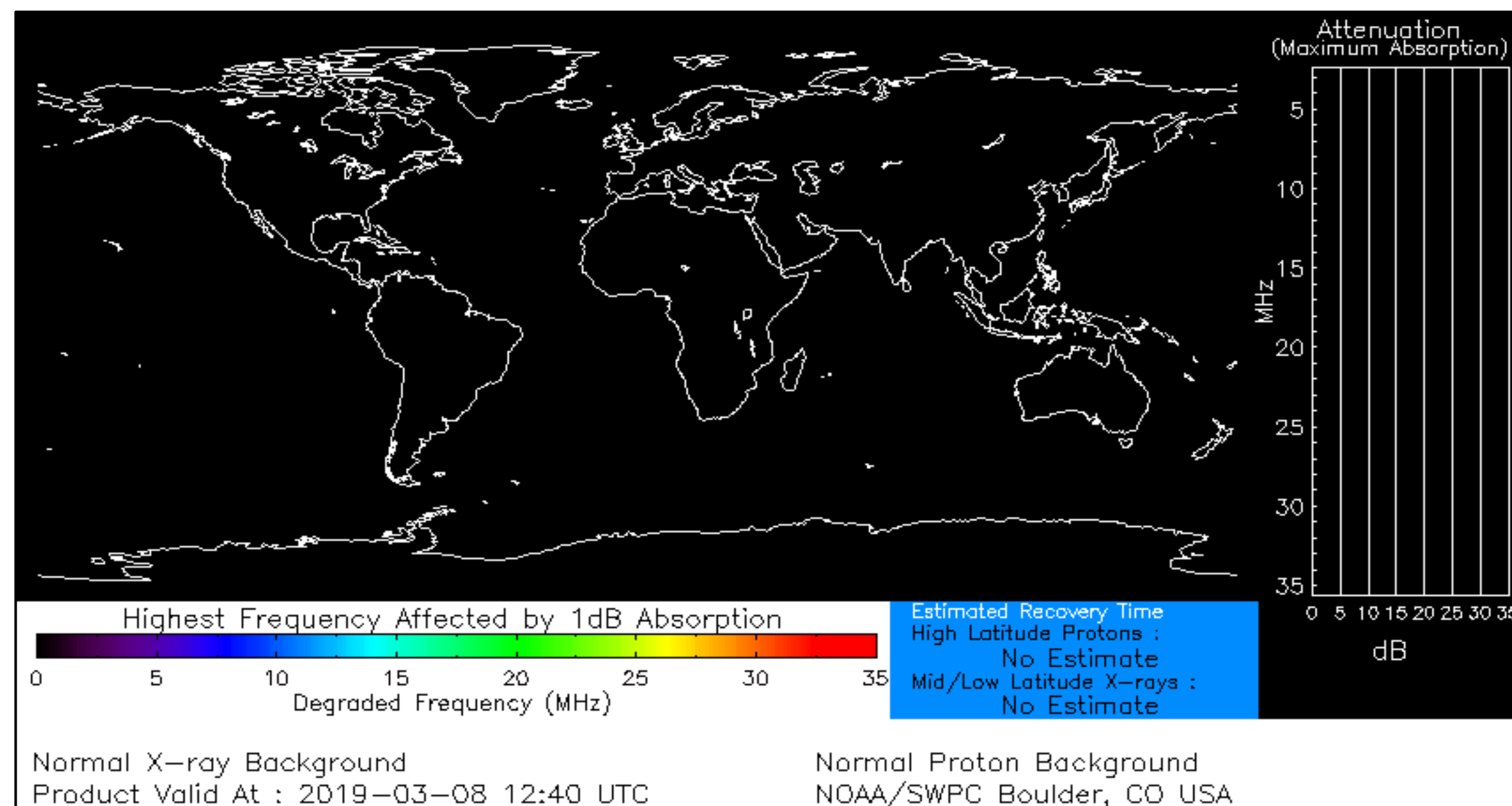
State	Current	Last Week	3 Months Ago	1 Year Ago
Arkansas	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Louisiana	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
New Mexico	12.50%	13.14%	20.67%	17.08%
Oklahoma	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	34.45%
Texas	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	14.16%

# Space Weather 3-Day Forecast



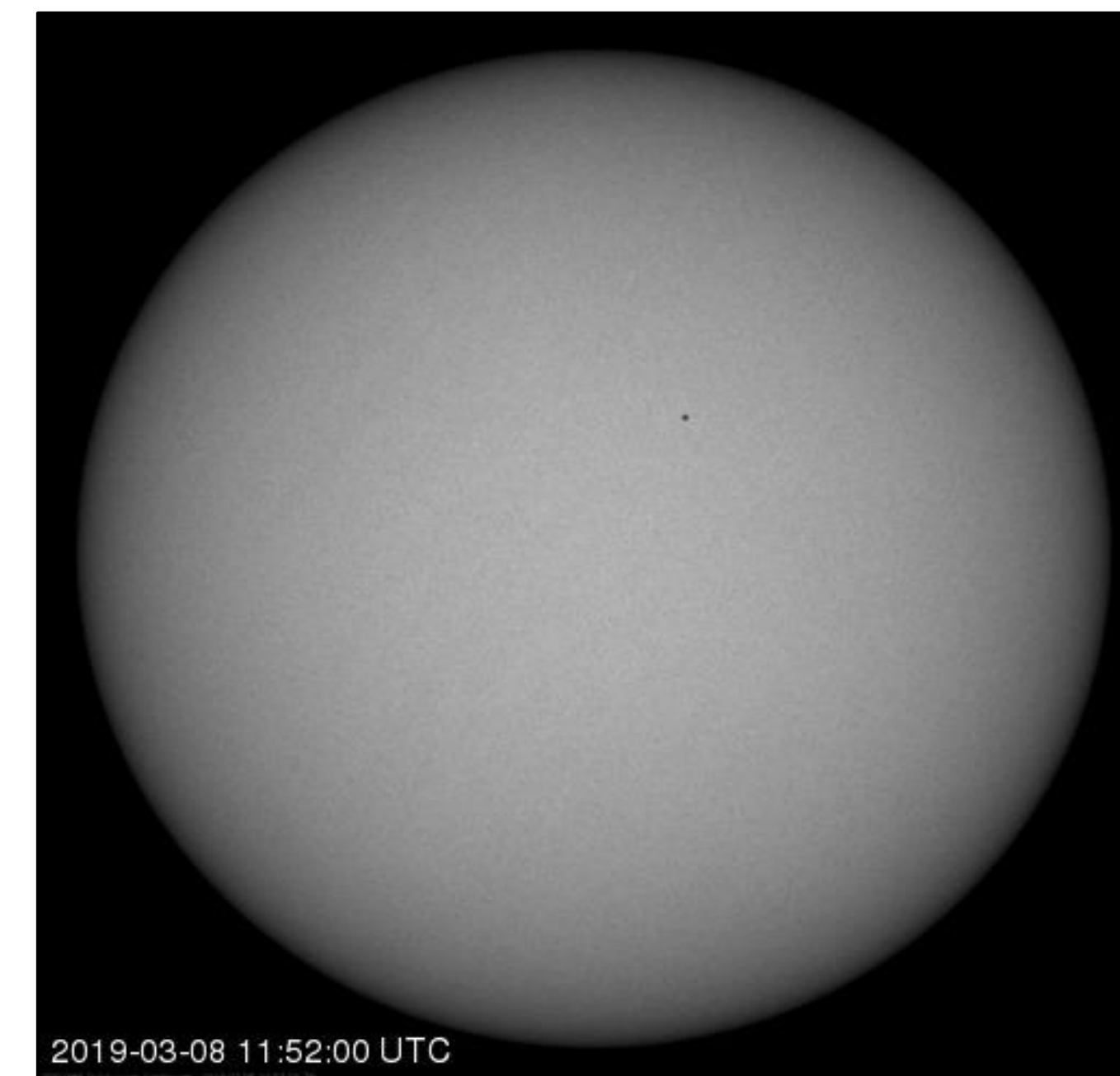
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	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Geomagnetic Storms	Quiet to Unsettled (Max Kp = 3)	Quite to Unsettled (Max Kp = 3)	Quiet (Max Kp = 2)
Solar Radiation Storm (S1-S5)	1%	1%	1%
Radio Blackout (R1-R2)	1%	1%	1%
Radio Blackout (R3-R5)	1%	1%	1%



[Click here for a Description of the Space Weather Storm Scales](#)

[Click here for the Latest 3-Day Space Weather Forecast Text](#)



2019-03-08 11:52:00 UTC



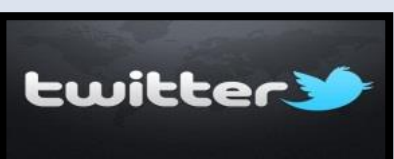
# For more information, please contact:

**National Weather Service**  
Southern Region Headquarters  
Regional Operations Center  
Fort Worth, TX

Phone: (682) 703-3747

E-mail: [sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov](mailto:sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov)

Web: <http://www.weather.gov/srh>



Weather “Threat” Matrix			
Color	Definition	Criteria	Example(s)
Green	<b>Very Common</b> Safety: Rarely a Direct Threat to Life and Property Impact Potential: Typically Results in Little Inconvenience to Daily Routines	Severe: Marginal Risk from SPC Flooding: Minor flooding expected over localized areas Tropical: None Fire Weather: No Watches/Warnings, fuel moisture above 10% or green up active	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Thunderstorms expected over LA this afternoon; a few may produce winds to knock down a few trees</li> <li>Something that happens almost every day in a particular season such as <u>seabreeze</u> storms in coastal TX</li> </ul>
Yellow	<b>Somewhat Common – Happens Frequently</b> Safety: Rarely a Direct Threat to Life and Property Impact Potential: Typically Results in Some Inconvenience to Daily Life	Severe: Slight Risk from SPC Flooding: Nuisance flooded expected for a widespread area, or Minor flooding expected over isolated areas Tropical: A weak tropical wave expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire Weather: Red Flag Watches/Warnings and/or SPC outlines enhanced or critical fire outlook	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2-3 inches of rainfall expected over central AR today and tonight; some minor (brief) street flooding possible</li> <li>Scattered severe storms possible, one or two tornadoes expected, along with reports of strong winds/wind damage and ~1” hail</li> </ul>
Orange	<b>Uncommon – A Few Times a Year</b> Safety: Often Threatening to Life and Property, Some Damage Unavoidable Impact Potential: Typically Results in Minor Disruption to Daily Life	Severe: Enhanced Risk from SPC Flooding: Minor flooding expected over a widespread area (including urban locations), or Moderate flooding expected over isolated areas Tropical: A Tropical Storm expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire: Critical fire outlook for more than 2 consecutive days, Warnings for 2 or more consecutive days, D3-D4 drought conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A snow/sleet mix is expected to move through or near the DFW area tomorrow morning; travel impacts likely</li> <li>Numerous severe storms possible, a few tornadoes possible along with several reports of wind damage along with damaging hail</li> <li>Some large fires reported, burn bans advertised, critical conditions expected</li> </ul>
Red	<b>Rare – Once every 1-5 Years</b> Safety: Extensive Property Damage Likely, Life Saving Actions Also will be Needed Impact Potential: Will likely result in Large Disruption to Daily Life	Severe: Moderate Risk from SPC Flooding: Moderate flooding expected over a widespread area (including urban locations) Tropical: A Hurricane expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire: Large areas of critical conditions for 2 or more days, Warnings for 3 or more days, Severe to extreme drought	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A Category 1 hurricane will be moving towards the NW Gulf in the next few days</li> <li>Widespread severe storms likely, strong tornadoes, widespread wind damage, and destructive hail</li> <li>Large fires ongoing throughout the area with critical fire weather conditions expected to continue</li> </ul>
Purple	<b>Very Rare – Once Every 5-10 Years</b> Safety: Property Damage Unavoidable, Immediate Action to Save Life will be Needed Impact Potential: Typically Results in Long-Lived Widespread Major Disruption to Daily Life	Severe: High Risk from SPC Flooding: Major flooding expected over a widespread area (including urban locations) Tropical: A Major Hurricane (Cat3 or greater) expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire: Large area of critical conditions for 2 or more days, Warnings for 3 or more days, Long term (months) of severe to extreme drought	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A Category 4 hurricane is headed towards the SE LA; major storm surge, flooding and damaging winds anticipated to begin tomorrow</li> <li>Widespread severe storms expected, tornado outbreak probable with long-lived, very widespread and particularly intense storms</li> </ul>

**Criteria for the color codes in this briefing is to the left, please provide any feedback to**

**[sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov](mailto:sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov)**